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'This isn't your father's Air Force' *21st SW commander emphasizes where we're headed*

By Capt. Brenda Campbell
and Master Sgt. D. K. Grant
21st SW Public Affairs

"This isn't your father's Air Force."

That was the message 21st Space Wing Commander Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler emphasized throughout a 45-minute commander's call Tuesday afternoon.

"We do not fight from fixed bases. We use to plan to confront a monolithic enemy that we knew all about and could fight if necessary," Kehler said. "We need to change to adapt to the new way the Air Force conducts business."

Illustrating the need for a common focus, Kehler described the demographic makeup of today's Air Force.

"Every first term and every second term in the enlisted corps, and the vast majority of O-3s and below – unless you have significant prior-enlisted time – entered the Air Force after the fall of the Berlin Wall," the commander explained, earning a room-wide chuckle with an added "half of you think 'SAC' is

something you put groceries in."

One challenge inherent in this situation is the high incidence of generational disconnect between the three tiers represented in the service.

The Air Force, over the past 15 years, has evolved from a cold war service to an expeditionary service with a complete change in operations tempo and a modified vision.

While the focus on mobility and expeditionary forces is familiar to members at the commander's level and to the very new (members enlisted or commissioned within the past six years), said the general, many members at the mid-level tier are struggling to adapt to the unfamiliar pace. That is especially true in the space field because of its previously stationary nature.

That's changing, he said, listing some of the tools now in use to ensure every young officer and enlisted member is a "warfighter first." Of primary importance in evolving to a fighter-mindset is education and training, hence the need for the aerospace basic course for officers and the enlisted "warrior week" in basic military training.

And although the basic words remain, a significant mindset change that encompasses the purpose of space forces is evident in the new Air Force vision: "Global Vigilance, Reach and Power – America's Air Force."

In line with the changes at the Air Force level, the 21st Space Wing has adopted a new vision to define the direction the wing is headed: "Team 21 – First in the fight. Providing space superiority and the eyes of global vigilance."

"Just like the F-15s provide air superiority, we need to provide

space superiority for the Air Force," he said. "We need to know where everything is in space, what it is doing there and why."

Kehler reminded wing members that "the sun literally never sets" on the 21st Space Wing and this wing more than any other unit in the Air Force is in the unique position to be able to maintain global vigilance and serve as the eyes of the nation.

To become effective and efficient at that awesome responsibility, however, will require work ... lots of it. What needs to be done?

Change and growth, said the commander, require that the wing integrate into the larger warfighting force. "We need to speak the language, talk the talk and walk the walk of the rest of the Air Force. That's how we integrate our space capabilities into the fight."

This integration effort is visible in three of our four new wing goals which are: 1. attain Space Based Infrared Systems initial operations capability, 2. stand up the new Air Base Wing at Buckley, 3. expand and operationalize a weapons and tactics flight, and 4. a long term goal to expand the air expeditionary force capability of the wing.

In the near future, wing leaders will also guide the wing to accomplish a very specific list of priorities between now and Jan. 2002. Those priorities are:

- Transition Clear Air Force Station to Alaska Air National Guard
- Complete five major military construction projects
- Transition Wing Battle Staff
- Outsource Cheyenne Mountain AFS
- Win Guardian Challenge
- Host the Air Force Space Command Commanders' Conference
- Transfer Remaining Defense Satellite Program mission to the 21st Operations Group

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Message from the 21st Space Wing commander

I had a great time last week visiting three of our GSUs – the 13th Space Warning Squadron at Clear AFS, Alaska and the 7th SWS at Beale AFB and the 18th Space Surveillance Squadron at Edwards AFB, Calif.

In a couple of weeks I'll be traveling to Europe to visit our GSUs there. And then in April comes a visit to Detachment 1, 18th Space Surveillance Squadron in New Mexico and Cavalier AFS in North Dakota. I certainly enjoy my travels. It allows me to have one-on-one contact with members of this far-reaching wing.

At the same time though, being on the road means being away from Peterson. But my absence is important. As I mentioned in the commander's call the other day, as the largest operational wing in the Air Force, we have global responsibilities. Which also means we have wing members stationed around the globe and my goal is to visit each wing unit within my first year at the 21st.

To help us all learn more about what's going on around the wing, we will be publishing GSU web addresses in the paper. Also, the number of articles and information on our units will increase. I think these initiatives will provide a good opportunity to educate ourselves about our diverse units around the world, as well as recognize our people.

We have a lot of Team 21 members doing great things. Keep up the good work.

Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler
21st SW commander



Photo by Airman 1st Class Shane Sharp

Taking care of our own

Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler, 21st Space Wing commander, fills out a donation slip to contribute to the Air Force Assistance Fund campaign while Capt. Jason Narhgang, 21st SW AFAF project manager, looks on. This year's AFAF campaign began Monday and runs through March 30. The annual AFAF campaign raises money to support four charitable organizations that benefit active-duty, Reserve, Air National Guard and retired Air Force members and their families, including surviving spouses and their families. For more information, see page 3.

— COMMANDER, From Page 1

- Host CORONA TOP
- Participate in two major exercises (UFL and GG)
- "Ace" the Operational Readiness Inspection
- Transition Buckley Air Force Base (and its subordinate group) to an Air Base Wing
- Achieve initial operational capability for the space based infrared system

Hastening to reassure an audience numbed by the overwhelming list, Kehler explained that people in the room were already working on the majority of those programs and priorities, but that four of them require specific and focused attention over the next six months. In the commander's priority order, those are 1) prepare for CORONA TOP (now – June 10), 2) transition wing battle staff (now – May 15), 3) prepare for ORI (now – mid-August), 4) win Guardian

Challenge (now – May 7).

"We are going to continue to integrate the space mission into the AEF concept," he said, "and possibly deploy personnel to the field to provide space support to the theater CINCs."

The general's personal goal when he arrived at the wing was to "get around to see the whole wing, which is basically around the world, as fast as he could. This is going to take me a year to do, but it will happen."

In the end, he referred back to his original message – this is not your father's Air Force.

"It is amazing the capability across this wing," he said. "If we could lock the doors and show all of you what we are really doing operationally you would be astounded."

"Even though it's not like a jet and you can't see it on the flightline or see it flying around, what we're doing is very important."

Action line

Submitting Action Lines

The Action Line (556-7777 or by fax: 556-7848) is your direct link to me. It provides an avenue for you to voice concerns over unsolved problems, share good ideas or provide some constructive criticism.

As a reminder, the Action Line is not a replacement for using your chain of command. Action Lines can help make the Peterson Complex and the wing a better place to live and work.



Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler

Q. When the airmen or NCOs test, why can't they all bring their PFEs to be recycled? That way, we don't have PFEs that are no longer good after this year being dumped into the trash. Maybe we could have a collection point at the airmen's club.

A. Good idea. Unmarked PFE Study Guides can, in fact, be recycled and placed into any unit's recycle bins. Our Education and Human Resource Flight personnel can also collect these guides at the WAPS testing site. However, a problem arises with recycling highlighted study guides because they are considered "protective." If a highlighted study guide is placed in a recycle bin, it could lead to a test compromise or an unfair advantage to other students. Therefore, these guides need to be destroyed or retained until they are no longer current before placing them into a recycle bin. If you have further questions or comments, please call Mr. John Brewer, supervisor of education and personnel services, at 556-9218.

Brief news

Street realignment

Access to the base transportation flight, Building 1229, and the maintenance area will be via Goodfellow Street instead of Stewart Avenue. The existing transportation yard access road will be closed Monday due to re-alignment construction at the Stewart Avenue-Paine Street intersection.

Reserve Forces Policy Board visit

The Reserve Forces Policy Board will visit with senior leaders from HQ NORAD / USSPACECOM and its components March 6 - 7. The RFPB is the principal policy advisor to the Secretary of Defense and Congress on all matters relating to the Reserve Components. They will be here to discuss RC utilization and associated issues with representatives of active duty customers in the local area. The focus of the visit will be to garner information and address any issues regarding full integration of the RC into the total force. In addition, they will be briefed by the Colorado State Committee of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

Income Tax assistance

The base legal office is once again sponsoring the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program to help prepare and submit taxes. VITA services are free and even if you've already prepared your own taxes, the VITA office can submit them electronically for you, also a free service. For more information, call the legal office at 556-4871.

Air Force Assistance Fund drive begins

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The 2001 Air Force Assistance Fund campaign, with the theme "Commitment to Caring," began Monday and runs through March 30.

Last year, campaign contributions totaled nearly \$4.3 million. This year's goal for the campaign is the same as last year's \$3.4 million.

The annual AFAF campaign raises money to support four charitable organizations that benefit active-duty, Reserve, Air National Guard and retired Air Force members and their families, including surviving spouses and their families.

— **The Air Force Aid Society:** The official charity of the Air Force, AFAS can be accessed worldwide for emergency financial assistance. Its top priority is assistance to active-duty members and their families, but consideration is given to help retirees and widows on a limited, case-by-case basis. Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members on extended active-duty under Title 10 U.S.C. may also be eligible for emergency assistance when circumstances warrant. The AFAS also offers education assistance programs, and an array of base-level community enhancement programs. Call the family support center at 556-6141 for more information about programs and eligibility.

— **The Air Force Enlisted Men's Widows and Dependents Home Foundation Inc.** The home foundation, located in Fort Walton Beach near Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., provides rent subsidy and other support to indigent widows and widowers of retired enlisted members. Those eligible are widows and widowers, 55 and older, whose spouses were retired from enlisted service in the regular Air Force, Air National Guard or Air Force Reserve.

— **The Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund.** The village, located in San Antonio, is a life-care community for retired officers, spouses, widows or widowers and family members. The indigent widow's fund provides support to widows and widowers of Air Force officers.

— **The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation.** The LeMay foundation provides rent and financial assistance to indigent officers' and enlisted members widows or widowers in their own homes and communities. The foundation supports all indigent widows or widowers who do not want to, or are unable to move to one of the retirement homes.

Donations to the AFAF campaign can be made through cash, check or payroll deduction.

Contributors may designate their contributions to one or more of the four charities, and 100 percent of their AFAF contribution is passed to their chosen charities. Contributions to the AFAF are deductible for federal income tax purposes as an itemized deduction.

For more information on the AFAF campaign, call Capt. Jason Nahrgang at 556-7657. (Courtesy AFPC News Service)

Top-Up provides 100 percent tuition assistance for AF members

By Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — A new program provides active-duty Air Force people with essentially 100 percent tuition assistance, by allowing them to combine the current 75 percent TA benefit with their Montgomery GI Bill, said Air Force education officials.

The program called, Top-Up, is available to all active-duty airmen eligible for both Montgomery GI Bill benefits and tuition assistance, said Jim Sweizer, Air Force voluntary education branch chief.

This eligibility also extends to those people who converted to the MGIB from the Veterans Educational Assistance Program and have paid their \$2,700 contribution, Sweizer said.

"Top-Up benefits, retroactive for courses starting on or after Oct. 30, 2000, provide students with up to 36 months of payments which do not impact the 36 months of (MGIB) benefits," Sweizer said. "If a student claims 24 months of Top-Up while on active duty and, after separating from the service, enters school, they are still eligible for the full 36 months of MGIB benefits."

However, students should remember Top-Up payments are borrowed against future GI Bill benefits, education officials said.

Future monthly GI Bill benefits are reduced by the amount of Top-Up dollars claimed, divided by 36

(the total number of months of MGIB benefits).

Therefore, a student who received a total of \$360 in Top-Up payments would receive \$640 per month instead of the current maximum MGIB benefit of \$650.

"Top-Up benefits are dependent on course length and generally not cost, although total Top-Up benefits in any given term cannot exceed the MGIB full-time rate of \$650 per month," Sweizer said.

"One student may enroll in an eight-week course and receive \$150 in Top-Up while another may enroll in a different eight-week course and receive \$300. At the end of each term, each student will still have 34 months of remaining Top-Up benefits. However, the student who received more Top-Up money will also receive a lesser amount in future regular MGIB payments.

"This is a wonderful initiative that essentially establishes 100 percent tuition assistance for our active-duty military members," Sweizer said. "It will greatly enhance their opportunity to pursue continuing education."

Congress approved the Top-Up program as part of the Veterans Benefit and Healthcare Improvement Act of 2000.

Government-funded Top-Up benefits cannot be used to supplement spouse tuition assistance that receives its funding from private sources.

Students wishing to receive Top-Up benefits should contact the base education office at 556-4064.



Photo by Airmen 1st Class Shane Sharp

New look for Airmen's Attic

Toni Haines (right), Airmen's Attic volunteer director, explains the process of obtaining a "large item" to Rachel Kennard. The Airmen's Attic recently underwent a two-month renovation, providing a better environment for airmen and their spouses to obtain needed household items at no charge. The attic is open Wednesdays 10 a.m.-2 p.m. with donations accepted between 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Donated items must be clean and in good working order. All large and small appliances, kitchenware, furniture, linens, baby items, wall decor, and garden supplies are accepted. Winter coats and military, maternity, and baby clothing up to size 2T are also accepted.

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Celebrating 'Women of Courage and Vision'

By Master Sgt. D.K. Grant
21 SW Public Affairs

Impossible. It is impossible to write a comprehensive article on women in history for publication in a newspaper, and it seems unnecessary.

The folks in ME chided us gently last week for not leaping to head a committee in honor of Women's History Month (which is March, by the way). I was perhaps too strident in my refusal, but my reason is two-fold.

1. Special observances can help us understand other cultures, religions, traditions and socio-political attitudes, which is good. A gender-driven special observance primarily encourages us to examine what makes us different and encourages a competitive environment between people who need to watch each other's backs. We live and fight and work and die side-by-side in this country and most of our significant achievements and contributions are made side-by-side as well.

2. Making a big deal of women's achievements sends

the message (to me) that women who have been successful in their various endeavors, particularly those that are not traditionally female pursuits, had to overcome the birth defect of gender to become successful. I admire the character and tenacity of women like Sally Ride, but she wasn't the first human in space and her achievement as a woman in space is not more important than the achievements of men and women world-wide who blister their hands and break their backs to do their daily duty, raise law-abiding children and ensure the right things get done for the right reasons.

Having expressed those thoughts, I will concede that women have faced and continue to face barriers that are primarily the result of perceptions, biases and cultures. Admittedly, the reason I have experienced no gender-barriers is probably because of the struggle women faced for generations before I came along. Maybe looking at some of the achievements women have made over the years

would help to eliminate the vestiges of bias that we bring to the table when we join the service.

This year's theme is "Celebrating Women of Courage and Vision." The difficulty with this theme is multi-fold. Women have been around as long as men and presumably there have always been women of courage and vision. So where and with whom do we begin?

Women have quietly assumed a role in the military ranks for centuries. Do we focus on that? Without the strong convictions of many non-military women throughout history, men, women and children might still be dying insufferably after a life of intolerable work conditions (they still do in some countries). Do we look at social reform? How about politics? There have been countless, notable women leaders over the years, some of whom led their nations to war, to victory.

Yes, I think it would be beneficial to look at women in each of those arenas, but we'll hold that for next week. This

week, we've provided information on a couple of activities you can participate in, and a list of reading and web pages where you can get more information. Here, though, I'd like to highlight a few "ordinary" women who did and do extraordinary things.

We'll start with Rosa Parks. Yes, she's renowned and more

than just an ordinary woman. But you know what she was before she became a symbol of human rights? She was tired. She worked hard, uncomplaining, every day and did her duty to her God, her family and herself. Her feet hurt and she was tired so she

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Events this week

A local kick-off event will be held in Denver Tuesday at the Colorado State Bank Building, 1600 Broadway, Ste 700. Guest speakers will include Colorado Supreme Court Justice Nancy Rice and Channel 9 News anchorwoman Adele Arakawa. Cost, which includes box lunches, is \$10 per person. Call Dawn Finnell at 303-844-2642 for details.

Hear space shuttle pilot Lt. Col. Pam Melroy and shuttle commander Col. Brian Duffy speak 11 a.m. Monday and 8:30 a.m. Tuesday at the base auditorium, and 3:30 p.m. Monday at the Schriever Air Force Base auditorium.

Books to check out

Women in World History: Readings from 1500 to Present by Sarah S. Hughes and Brady Hughes

Women Warriors: A History by David E. Jones

Websites to check out

www.nwhp.org (National Women's History Project)

<http://userpages.aug.com/captbarb> (incredible, detailed history of women in the armed forces – before it was legal and after – including significant contributions throughout American history; page created and maintained by retired Air Force Capt. Barbara Wilson. This page is remarkable, comprehensive and a must-see for military history buffs).

AFPC announces new promotion schedule

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — In an effort to reduce the waiting time between enlisted promotion testing and the promotion release dates, the Air Force recently revised the Weighted Airman Promotion System testing schedule.

After this year's chief master sergeant testing cycle, all enlisted testing cycles for 2002 will be pushed back anywhere from a couple of weeks to two months.

None of these changes impact the ongoing testing cycles for 2001 or the promotion eligibility cutoff dates for current or future promotion cycles.

"It has been our goal for quite some time to bring enlisted promotion testing windows and public announcement dates closer together," said Chief Master Sgt. Greg Haley, chief of the enlisted promotions and military testing

branch here. "We believe that having to wait months on your promotion result is a career irritant that we can fix.

The following are the revised testing dates and cycles the dates affect:

For chief master sergeant, testing will take place the first four days after Labor Day starting with cycle 01E9.

For senior master sergeant, testing will be permanently moved from November to January starting with cycle 02E8. This cycle will test Jan. 10 through 24.

For master and technical sergeant, the testing window will slip 15 days to Feb. 15 through March 31 starting with cycle 02E7/02E6.

For staff sergeant, the testing cycle will slip one month. Senior airmen will test in May beginning with cycle 02E5.

"The most significant change is cor-

porately moving E-8 testing from November to January every year," Haley said. "It allows E-8 eligibles to test in January, get boarded in February, and receive their results in March—similar to the E-9 promotion process. Although there will be tighter deadlines on nonweighables, the gain for members should be well worth it.

"We are also providing a larger gap between the E-6/7 and E-5 cycles which will allow more time to work testing products and finalize eligibility changes for the cycle," he said.

Another big change taking place with the 2002 cycles is the increase in time an airman has access to the proper testing materials. Currently, the Air Force only requires individuals have access to study materials for 30 days in order to be required to test. The change now requires that 30-day window be

extended to 60 days. And, when there is a delay in the receipt of materials through no fault of the member, he or she will not be required to test until they have been granted 60 days to study.

"Whenever and wherever we can, we need to listen carefully, and find out what our hard-working dedicated troops have to say as customers of the enlisted promotion system," Haley said. "These changes are the result of direct feedback from the troops, and these improvements are what we believe the majority of the enlisted force wants to see. The changes make sense, and they turn an already great promotion system into an even better one."

For more information about testing issues, people should contact their local military personnel flight. (*Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center News Service*)

Special program increases Air Force ROTC opportunities

By Airman 1st Class Marti Diehl
Air University Public Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. — This spring the Air Force Officer Accession and Training School is revitalizing its One-Year Professional Officer Course-Early Release Program to increase the number of lieutenants commissioned into the Air Force through the Reserve Officer Training Corps.

AFOATS is responsible for 75 percent of the production requirements for lieutenants for the Air Force, said Col. Stefan Eisen, Air Force ROTC

commander. Active-duty enlisted servicemembers who are within one year of completing a bachelor's degree, or who already have a degree and wish to pursue master's degree credits, if recommended by the wing commander, can apply for the program.

The program is also open to college seniors who are not sure of their post-graduation plans and might consider the Air Force as a career choice. Civilians who already have a bachelor's degree and are interested in graduate work may also apply.

The program application period runs from March 1 to Aug. 1.

"On the active-duty Air Force side, we are look-

ing for enlisted members who are within one year of completing their degrees," Eisen said. "These extra-hard working airmen are traditionally exceptional candidates for commissioning."

People interested in applying should visit the base education office, Building 1141, Room 101, Thursday between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. for details.

For more information, visit ROTC's website at <http://web1.maxwell.af.mil/afoats/enlisted/>, or call the base education office at 556-4064, or contact Capt. James O'Quinn at 333-7737 or 2nd Lt. Stacie Shafran at 333-7878.

Duke: Flyer talks about 'cruisin' on the moon, walking with God

By Master Sgt. D.K. Grant
21st SW Public Affairs

Speaking to an overflow crowd during the Peterson Air Force Base National Prayer Luncheon Tuesday, former astronaut Retired-Brig. Gen. Charlie Duke shared his story of driving around on the moon with Commander John Young, as well as the tale of his spiritual journey.

The luncheon, coordinated by the wing chapel and protocol staff, was sold-out early, according to senior Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Bill Rice.

Unlike the past two years, this year's event went off without a hitch, in part because it was changed from a breakfast, a nationwide tradition, to a luncheon. In the recent past, the breakfast was planned and bad weather reporting delays spoiled the morning. This year, the chapel staff was ready for the weather, which was predictably uncooperative.

A 1957 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Duke opted to enter the Air Force, which at that time didn't offer an academy program, upon graduation. He attended flight training at Spence Air Base, Georgia, and Webb AFB, Texas, and spent the next half-dozen years flying fighters in Europe and as a flight instructor on the F-101, F-104 and T-33. In 1966, he was among 19 astronauts selected by NASA for the Apollo program.

Duke, one of only 12 people to set foot on the moon, was a member of the support crew for Apollo 13 and the lunar module pilot for Apollo 16, along with Young. Their command module pilot was T.K. Mattingly.

The general opened with an explanation of his topic, "One Nation Under God". His military background became evident as he explained that, as

we say during the Pledge of Allegiance, since the U.S. is one nation under God, then its leaders are under God, and since its leaders are under God, then its military is under God and since its military is under God...etc. Ultimately "each of us is under God," he said, summarizing his picture of the spiritual chain of command.

Again, displaying evidence of a career begun in a military fighter plane, Duke described the process and sensations involved in preparing for and launching into space, "flying" his hands as he spoke. Explaining the capacity of the Saturn rocket, with its 7.5 million pounds of thrust, his hand-trajectory was, not surprisingly, somewhat steeper than another pilot's.

Amusing his audience, he described his and Young's antics when they landed the Orion lunar ship on the Cayley Plain, Descartes highland region of the moon.

"We were literally like two kids at Christmas," he said, describing their excitement as they disconnected their rover from the Orion.

Allowed to drive no more than 5 miles in any direction, they spent three days on the surface, covering 16 miles during three outside excursions to collect 213 pounds of lunar rock and soil.

Duke talked about some of the significant, and perhaps seemingly insignificant differences between the Apollo program and the newer space shuttle program. While shuttle astronauts go to space and see and experience many of the same things, according to Duke, they don't see the "perfect circle – the jewel of Earth, hanging in the blackness of space" which is only visible as an entire circle from 16,000 miles into deep space, a significant temporary duty assignment that took three travel days, he said.

Unfortunately, they didn't pay us mileage, since govern-



Photo by Master Sgt. D.K. Grant

Retired-Brig. Gen. Charlie Duke uses his hand to illustrate how to land a lunar module in low gravity to guests at the National Prayer Luncheon held at the enlisted club Tuesday.

ment transportation was provided," he said with a grin.

At that point, the general hadn't yet established a relationship with God, he said, and it wasn't until six years later that the power of that image – the full-circle of Earth hanging on nothing in black – struck him as evidence of the truth of his convictions.

Citing Job in the Old Testament of the Christian Bible, he remarked that the Bible describes the earth – millennia before the advent of space travel – in just the way that Duke saw it out the window of the Apollo.

"How did they know the Earth was a perfect circle?" he queried. "They couldn't see it from here."

Duke segued from the light-chat of historical reminiscence to an emotionally frank discussion of his realization that he bordered on emotional and spiritual bankruptcy.

Accompanied to Peterson, and most places in his Christian speaking circuit by Dottie, his wife of 37 years, the general talked about the miracles that resulted in their continued union.

Calling himself a "churchian" rather than Christian and describing his career as his god, Duke cut himself no slack when he talked about the emotional damage he inflicted on his wife and children; damage that had Dottie nearly suicidal. That was 1975. It was the year, he said, that Dottie

found God, and the change in her was phenomenal.

Despite his opportunity to watch what he called her miraculous, almost-overnight change and growth, he said, it would be another three years before he would be able to quiet himself enough to hear God calling him, too.

It was 1978 when, invited to a Bible study, the general said his life began. Like Dottie, he experienced rapid emotional growth and spiritual conviction. His priorities changed and his marriage and family began an inspiring healing process. A Christian lay-leader and author, he says Dottie – who he didn't love in 1975, is now his "companion, friend, confidant, love" and travels with him to tell their story.

He closed with a reminder of lessons he learned (some at his family's expense): "Proverbs tells us that we have the power of life and death in our tongues" he said, drawing on that childhood saying "sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." Not true, not at all, insisted Duke, remembering the power his temper and unkind words had on his wife and children.

"I am under God," he said. "We are all under God in this One Nation Under God," he reminded the crowd, citing each member's responsibility to act as appropriate stewards of that nation under God.

Submit your articles to the Space Observer

Articles must be received at least 10 days prior to the date you want them to appear in the Space Observer. Articles can be e-mailed to shane.sharp@peterson.af.mil or melanie.epperson@peterson.af.mil. Call 556-7846 for more information

Get evaluated, says Gulf War Illnesses chief

By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — A retired Army general who wrote the official history of the Gulf War informs service members and veterans who think they may have symptoms of Gulf War Illnesses to seek medical help.

Retired Lt. Gen. Dale A. Vesser, appointed in January as the acting special assistant to the secretary of Defense for Gulf War Illnesses, said the Gulf War was "a great victory" for United States and coalition military forces.

However, Vesser said, the Department of Defense remains very concerned that some active duty, reserve component and former service members believe they've become ill because of their service in the war. Those servicemembers and veterans should contact DOD- or Veterans Affairs-sponsored outreach programs immediately, he said.

"We missed the main story of the Gulf War, that I've subsequently come to learn, that one in seven veterans who went to the Gulf had symptoms, and they think they got those symptoms in the Gulf," Vesser said. "You are your own best health advocate. Don't tough it out if you think

you are sick. Go and get evaluated."

About 697,000 Americans served in Southwest Asia during the Gulf War, according to official statistics. About 120,000 people have been examined for Gulf War Illnesses: 40,000 by the military's Comprehensive Clinical Evaluation Program and 80,000 through the Veteran's Affairs registry.

Ten percent of those examined were deemed healthy while 90 percent were determined to exhibit symptomatic illnesses, according to office documents. Of those with symptoms, 80 percent were medically diagnosed and treated for a specific known illness, while 20 percent remain undiagnosed.

The office notes that the most common symptoms experienced by Gulf War veterans reporting illnesses include tiredness, headaches, joint pains, diarrhea, memory loss, depression, rashes, muscle aches, abdominal pain, hair loss, sleep disturbance and concentration problems.

Then-Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Bernard Rostker remarked on Jan. 12 that there is no "smoking gun" pointing to direct causes of the illnesses and that DOD and other medical experts remain baffled as

We've identified troops who were exposed, and sent out over 140,000 letters recently, telling them about that potential exposure

— Retired Lt. Gen.
Dale A. Vesser

to the specific reasons why some Gulf War veterans are ill.

Vesser noted that researchers initially thought that smoke from oil well fires started by retreating Iraqi forces might have been responsible for some veterans' medical problems. However, he said that theory, and the idea that exposure to depleted uranium munitions have caused the symptoms, have since been discounted.

"The work that has been done now pretty much discounts oil well fires as the major source of the symptoms that Gulf War veterans have," Vesser said. "Depleted uranium was another 'cause celebre' for a brief period of time."

However, Vesser said that although Saddam Hussein didn't use nuclear, biological or chemical agents against coalition forces during the war, "it never dawned on us ... that we might have done it to ourselves."

The demolition of captured

munitions stocks at Khamsiyah, Iraq on March 11, 1991 by U.S. Army engineers may have exposed some troops in the area to very low levels of the chemical nerve agent Sarin, according to a National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine report.

Troops in the Khamsiyah region weren't exposed to a high enough dose to cause an intense, immediate reaction, the report noted.

The report also noted that evidence is inconclusive as to whether exposure to low levels of Sarin can be tied to long-term health effects, based on previous studies.

"We've identified troops who were exposed, and sent out over 140,000 letters recently, telling them about that potential exposure," Vesser said. "But, the bottom line still is this isn't primarily what might have caused problems to their health."

Vesser said DOD still "has major unanswered questions" about use of pesticides and pyridostigmine bromide pills during the Gulf War.

Pesticides were used to

ward off Southwest Asian bugs and insects which carry infectious diseases, he remarked, while pyridostigmine bromide pills were taken as protection against the nerve agent Soman.

Lessons learned from the Gulf War are being applied within the U.S. military today, Vesser said, citing the specially trained NBC, preventive medicine and environmental hazard detection teams that routinely accompany deployed units.

Vesser said information sharing up and down the chain of command is also important. During the Gulf War, he said, a third of service members who served on the ground believed they were exposed to a chemical warfare agent.

Vesser reiterated that people who suspect they're ill from their Gulf War service should seek medical help as soon as possible.

"People have to ask themselves how they are feeling and be honest with themselves," he said. "If they don't take care of themselves, nobody else will."

Academy earns annual safety award

By Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force announced its annual safety award winners during the CORONA South conference held recently in Florida.

Annually, individual and unit trophies are awarded for excellence in a variety of ground, flight and overall safety programs.

The SECAF Safety Award Category II winner is the U.S. Air Force Academy. The Academy reduced its on-duty civilian injuries by 45 percent and military injuries by 33 percent.

For the first time in 25 years, the Academy also had no cadet fatalities for two consecutive years. The Academy's 34th Training Wing conducted more than 128,000 airfield events, 29,000 sorties and 13,500 flying hours without a single reportable flight mishap. No mishaps were experienced during the cadet summer programs, which included basic cadet training, combat survival training tactics and global engagement.

At the heart of the Academy's efforts to create a safe working environment is its emphasis on training and operational risk management.

DoD promotes spouse employment

By Linda D. Kozaryn

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Jean Marie Ward says there are so many spouse employment initiatives underway within DoD and the services right now it makes her head spin.

"We stand on the brink of a number of very exciting initiatives that are all moving concurrently in the same direction, and they all support each other," said Ward, senior policy advisor for spouse employment and technology in DoD's Office of Family Policy.

A major campaign is underway to promote spouse employment, she said. "Our new action agenda is just one of many avenues we're exploring."

The action agenda developed as a result of the August 2000 Spouse Employment Summit in Phoenix, Ariz. About 120 program staff, civilian personnel specialists and military spouses at the summit identified key issues and suggested strategies to address them.

The agenda integrates summit participants' recommendations into DoD and service initiatives. "The plan specifies that we work on policy and resource issues, career continuity and marketing," Ward said.

Under a provision of the fiscal 2000 Appropriations Act, she noted, the federal government aims to have 25 percent of its workforce telecommuting within five years.

The military's overall goal is to promote portable careers, remote training and telework for spouses.

Following the Phoenix summit, DoD launched a part-

nership with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to promote just such spouse employment opportunities. The chamber is now laying the foundation for the program, Ward said.

For example, CISCO Systems, a high-tech information technology firm, in conjunction with the Communication Workers of America, recently offered six training scholarships to spouses in the Washington D.C. area. They also offered up to 20 distance-learning scholarships.

"The response was awesome," Ward said, after word about the scholarships went out at a weekly meeting of DoD and service spouse employment program managers. "We basically gave them 10 days turnaround and more than 1,500 people expressed interest. We couldn't enter people in the database fast enough."

The Chamber partnership initiative prompted DoD and the services to look at what else could be done one-on-one, Ward said. This includes pursuing training opportunities offered through the Department of Labor.

In addition to cooperating with Labor, each of the services has launched spouse employment initiatives.

"The Air Force has a number of projects, including re-examining a spouse entrepreneur program tested at Ramstein," she said.

Susan Golden, Peterson's family support center spouse employment program manager, attended the Phoenix Spouse Employment Summit in August and is working hard to improve employment opportunities for military spouses.

"Locally, I have been networking with large companies in the Pikes Peak Region to encourage them to develop

more telecommuting opportunities for military spouses," said Golden. "Also, the Air Force has an online community data base called Crossroads, with worldwide employment information and links to other sites. Crossroads is working with employers to have them list telework opportunities for military spouses through their employment information link. Clients can access this employment data base by using: www.afcrossroads.com."

Throughout all this, the spouse employment programs at service headquarters level and installation level are doing their own bit to forward the broad goals of the agenda which are intended to enhance spouse employment through every means possible.

"All of the services are also involved in helping me to put together an online desk guide," said Ward.

"The site will enhance the resources and training provided for the people in the field who help spouses find jobs," she explained. "We held an off-site for program managers in late January to look at what we needed to include, DoD guidance, position descriptions and regulations," Ward said.

"What do you need to be a really good employment professional? What sort of things do you have to have in your information referral area? Who do you need to know in the community to send people to? What kind of training should you offer?"

DoD currently offers the DoD Job Search at <http://dod.jobsearch.org> and the One-Stop Jobs at <http://dticaw.dtic.mil/mapsite/onestop.html> to help spouses find jobs, Ward added. "We have not taken away any resources; these are new resources we're building."

AF announces plan to correct civilian retirement coverage

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – The Federal Erroneous Retirement Coverage Correction Act, signed into law by former President Clinton, is expected to grant relief to federal civilian employees who may have been placed in the wrong retirement plan for at least three years of service after Dec. 31, 1986.

Most of the errors occurred in the mid-eighties when the federal government created the Federal Employees Retirement System for newly hired employees, leaving the older Civilian Service Retirement System in effect for current employees.

"While most federal civilian employees working in the Air Force are covered under the correct retirement plan, there are still some in the wrong retirement coverage," said Christine Watkins, Benefits and Entitlements Service Team employee relations specialist. "Our concern is with employees who haven't worked for the federal government continuously since 1983, or have had changes in appointment types and retirement plans. These employees could possibly be in the wrong retirement coverage."

Employees, who have been or were covered under the wrong retirement plan for at least three years of service after Dec. 31, 1986, may benefit from FERCCA in one or more ways. Employees could

While most federal civilian employees working in the Air Force are covered under the correct retirement plan, there are still some in the wrong retirement coverage. Our concern is with employees who haven't worked for the federal government continuously since 1983. These employees could possibly be in the wrong retirement coverage.

have an opportunity to choose another retirement plan; receive reimbursement for certain out-of-pocket expenses incurred as a result of the retirement coverage error; benefit from certain rules about how some of their government service counts toward retirement; and make-up contributions to the Thrift Savings Plan, as well as receive earnings on those contributions.

The Air Force Personnel Center Benefits and Entitlements Service Team will send letters to all "full serviced" employees, along with a form requesting review of their official personnel record and an information sheet to help them assess whether they are under the correct retirement coverage.

Employees should take the FERCCA Self-Identification Test online at the FERCCA Website. The address is <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/fas/bene->

[fits/fercca.htm](http://www.cpms.osd.mil/fas/bene-fits/fercca.htm). If employees determine they are in the correct retirement plan, no further action is required.

Employees who believe they are or have been in the wrong retirement plan should identify themselves by filling out and faxing the Request for Review of Official Personnel Records to Benefits and Entitlements Service Team at DSN 665-2936, commercial (210) 565-2936, or mail the request to the address on the form.

BEST will review the record, make a determination regarding retirement coverage and notify employees within 60 days of receipt of the request.

"If they are in the wrong plan, we will enter their names and other relevant information in the Office of Personnel Management's FERCCA database," Watkins said.

The office is responsible for the FERCCA program. They will verify employees' options under FERCCA and provide all counseling and assistance. BEST is only responsible for helping employees self-identify themselves and making the initial determination regarding retirement coverage.

Further information is available on the OPM Web site and the BEST homepage under "What's New" and "Retirement."

AF reviews hiring methods

WASHINGTON - The Air Force has received guidance and authority from the Department of Defense to hire, promote and reassign individuals consistent with the president's initiative to streamline the government workforce.

There is no hiring freeze, officials said.

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld issued a memorandum recently delegating the authority to the service secretaries. The DOD memo addressed a White House memo outlining a presidential initiative to flatten the federal hierarchy and reduce the number of high-level managerial positions.

The Air Force has further delegated the authority to appoint, promote and reassign individuals to installation commanders with appointing authority subject to the following conditions.

□ Decisions to hire into positions with supervisory codes of 1, 2 or 3 at the GS-11 through 15 (or equivalent) levels must be made in writing by the appointing authority considering the president's initiative to flatten hierarchies and reduce high-level managerial positions.

□ Supervisory and managerial positions in most efficient organizations and federal wage system are exempt from the review.

□ The Air Force Executive Resources Board is delegated the authority to approve appointments or movement within positions above the GS-15 level.

□ All other positions not subject to review will be filled subject to hiring conditions before Jan. 20.

Rumsfeld's memo directs senior DOD managers to "establish procedures to review and approve hiring decisions" and says they may "appoint, promote or reassign individuals to positions after determining that doing so is consistent ... with the president's initiative."

Air Force has directed that supervisory GS-11 through GS-15 positions be reviewed to ensure the largest number of employees work for the smallest number of supervisors needed to carry out the mission effectively, unnecessary supervisory layers are eliminated and unnecessary deputy and assistant supervisory, and manager positions are eliminated.

Additionally, the DOD memo exempts people hired under the priority placement program, which is used to offer jobs to employees displaced by base closures and other downsizing actions.

For your information

New Items

Summer fashion show: The Peterson Ladies Golf Association and the Silver Spruce Golf Course will host a summer fashion show in conjunction with the association's annual meeting March 29, 9 a.m., at the course. Coffee, tea, juice and assorted pastries will be served. A 15 percent discount will be offered on all sportswear purchased at the fashion show, and 10 percent discount on special orders. For more information, call 556-7414.

Outdoor Recreation: Outdoor Rec needs drivers to take adventure seekers to the untamed regions of Colorado. If you're interested, call Scott Hackney at 556-4867 or 556-4487.

Outdoor Rec also needs volunteers to help with wet-and-wild rafting, camping, hiking, canoeing, all-terrain vehicle and kayaking adventures. Call Hackney for more information.

Space Symposium: The 17th National Space Symposium, hosted by the Space Foundation, will be April 9-12 at the Broadmoor International Center. Featuring top national and international leaders, the symposium's theme this year is "Space 2001: An Earth Odyssey." As in past years, the symposium needs volunteers to help with media relations, escort speakers, assist with presentation, man information booths, coordinate transportation, support registration and provide security services. Volunteers will have unlimited access to exhibits and may attend speaker sessions as well. For more information or to learn how to volunteer, go to the symposium web site, www.usfs.org/symposium01 and select the "volunteer" button. Active duty military may also contact the volunteer coordinator, Lt. Col. Charlie Manship, at charles.manship@peterson.af.mil, or call 554-9304.

Blood Drive: The Memorial Hospital Blood Bank will conduct a blood drive Tuesday, noon-3 p.m. at the Peterson AFB Chapel, Rooms 6 and 7. For more information, contact the donor resource coordinator at 365-2513.

Band of the Rockies: The United States Air Force Band of the Rockies Winter Concert Series continues with a performance Sunday, 2 p.m. at the Arnold Hall Theater, Air Force Academy. The concert will feature Wild Blue Country and Blue Steel. Performances are free and open to the public, but tickets are required. Tickets are available only at Ticketmaster outlets.

Waste pick up: Volunteers are needed to support the El Paso County Household Chemical Waste Collection program April 27-28 at Penrose Stadium. Volunteers will help unload tires, oil, paints, solvents and other chemical wastes, as well as help direct traffic. For more information or to volunteer, contact Joe Partoll at 556-1458. Volunteers should contact Partoll by April 3.

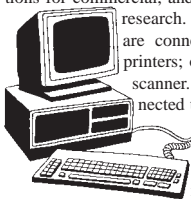
Miscellaneous

Telephone survey: The Air Force Survey Branch has approved an official survey to gather information about people's general perceptions of the Air Force, how they feel about serving, and where they may have seen Air Force messages in the media. Survey calls will be made to work centers, and everyone is encouraged to participate.

Enlisted Professional Development: The airman's EPD seminar is scheduled for March 6. The noncommissioned officer seminar is scheduled for March 7 and 8, and the senior NCO seminar is scheduled for March 9. Call Senior Master Sgt. Rene' Melero at 268-3599 to sign up.

Extended care services: The Peterson Family Child Care Program has added extended care services, offering longer hours of care in Air Force licensed FCC homes. Eligibility requires at least one parent be active-duty member, reserve or guard on active duty, dual-employed (married to civilian) or DOD civilian employee. For more information, call Steve Canales at 556-4322 or 554-9579.

Internet access: The base library offers Internet service with eight workstations: four DSL workstations for commercial, and four .mil workstations for research. Three DSL workstations are connected to black and white printers; one has a color printer and scanner. The .mil stations are connected to black and white printers. Cost is 10 cents per color copy and 5 cents for black and white. For more information, call 556-7462.



Family Support Center 556-6141

Classes: Classes are held in the Family Support Center classroom, 135 Dover Street, Building. 350, Room 1016 (unless otherwise specified). Registration is required for all classes. To register call Family Support at 556-6141 or stop by the center.

Volunteer opportunities: To review a list of volunteer opportunities from District 11 schools contact Larry Land at 556-9268.

Air Force Aide Education Grant: The Society's General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program awards \$1,500 grants to sons and daughters of active duty, retired or deceased Air Force members, retired reservists over age 60, and Title 10 reservists on extended active duty (no other reserve or air national guard are eligible). Spouses are also eligible if their sponsors are assigned to CONUS. Visit your Air Force Aide Society office to pick up an application or download one from www.afas.org.

Job orientation: The job orientation class, slated for Thursday and March 22 and 29, 1-2:30 p.m., offers a brief overview of local job market information and how Family Support can help seekers with their job search.

Applying for Federal Civilian Service: A representative from the civilian personnel office will provide tips on filling our applications and resumes for civil service during a seminar March 14, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Family Advocacy 556-8943

Stress management: Learn basic techniques for managing stress during a stress management course slated for Tuesday and March 13, 20 and 27, 2-3:30 p.m., at the education center.

Common sense parenting: A six-session common-sense parenting workshop offers fun, practical, skills-based training in raising responsible kids and building happy families. Class dates are Wednesday and March 14, 21, 28, and April 2 and 11, 2-4 p.m., at the PAFB Chapel. For more information, call Clifton Ford, at 556-8943.



Military Personnel Flight 556-7377

Command Chief: The Air Force Personnel Center Chief's Group needs volunteers for the command chief master sergeant position, 1st Fighter Wing, Langley AFB, Va. Report date will be no later than June 30. For more information, call MPF customer service and ask for bulletin 6.

Commandant: The AFPC Chief's Group needs volunteers for the USAF First Sergeant Academy Commandant position, Maxwell AFB, Ala. Report date is no later than April 1. Members who hold the first sergeant code (8F000) and those who have previously held the code are eligible to apply. For morning information, call customer service and ask for bulletin 7.

Enlisted Aide: The Air Force General's Group needs volunteers for an enlisted aide position at Kelly AFB, Texas. For more information, call customer service and ask for bulletin 8.

Community Activities Center 556-7671

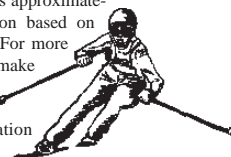
SCUBA trip: Sign up March 9 for an April 12-17 SCUBA trip to Key West. A registration table will be set up in the fitness center from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and full payment is due at registration. To register before March 9, call the CAC at 556-1733 or 556-1737.

Basic drawing: Learn drawing basics in this four-session class that meets from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, March 13 and 15 at the CAC. The class is \$25 per person. For more information or to register, call 556-1732.

Rockies season opener: The Colorado Rockies baseball team season opener against Seattle will be April 2. For more information or to get your tickets, call 556-1733. Deadline to sign up is March 30.

Craft Fair: A craft fair will be held at the Peterson Officer's Club ballroom April 6, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Table rent is \$10 each. For more information or to register, call CAC Manager Deb Connor at 556-1737. Deadline is April 2.

Glenwood Springs: Ski or just enjoy the hot springs pool, shopping in Aspen or a day trip to Leadville during the CAC trip to Glenwood Springs March 9-11. Cost is approximately \$180 per person based on double occupancy. For more information or to make reservations, call the CAC at 556-1733. The reservation deadline is today.



Education Center 556-4064

Webster University: Webster is now enrolling for the spring term, March 17 - May 17. Active-duty military student tuition rate is \$249 per credit hour for all Colorado Springs Webster University courses. Call 574-7562 for more information.

Aerospace Basic Course: The Air Force Aerospace Basic Course for second lieutenants has had a high number of empty seats and as a result, Headquarters Air Force Space Command has implemented a new policy adding the major commands in the process and raising the reclama level from the group to wing commanders. Individuals scheduled to attend must ensure they show.

Civilian tuition assistance: The program will pay 75 percent of one off-duty education course for DOD civilians in AFSPC, pay grade GS 10 or below. The program went into effect Feb. 1, and will not pay for any courses before that date.



Enlisted Club 556-4194

Bring Your Boss Night: Bring Your Boss Night will be March 14, beginning at 4:30 p.m., featuring heavy hors d'oeuvres, beverages, music and a pay-as-you-go bar. For more information, call 556-4194.

Hostage rescue!



Photos by Capt. Carlos Garcia

Terrorist "Randy", played by Creighton Brandt, Colorado Springs Police Department, keeps an eye on the hostages.



Terrorist "Toby", played by Troy Bauer, CSPD, uses a hostage (Airman 1st Class Pamela Aponte) as a human shield while demanding a phone from negotiators.

Members of the 21st Space Wing teamed up with the Colorado Springs Police Department during a hostage situation/scenario exercise Monday.

The semi-annual exercise tested the base's memorandum of agreement with CSPD and this year, included the CSPD SWAT team as well as the new 21st SW Hazardous Material team.

Weapons used by "the actors" were never loaded with ammunition. (Information provided by 21st SW Inspector General office)



Members of the Colorado Springs Police Department SWAT team provide cover while other members check the condition of a hostage who was released by the terrorists.



Terrorist "Randy" surrenders to SWAT team members



21st Space Wing Hazardous Material team members and SWAT team members escort hostages on the way to the new decontamination unit after SWAT team members secured the room and "took out" the terrorist.

Intelligence chief details threats facing America

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The world's in transition from the Cold War to something new and the top military intelligence officer expects the next 10 to 15 years to be "at least as turbulent, if not more so" as the past 10. Navy Vice Adm. Thomas Wilson, director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, testified before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Feb. 7. In his written statement to the committee he said the basic forces bringing stress and disorder to the world will continue.

"No power, circumstance or condition is likely to emerge capable of overcoming these [forces] and creating a more stable global environment," Wilson said. "Within this environment, the 'Big C' issues — especially counter drug, counter intelligence, counter proliferation, counter terrorism ... will remain key challenges for the United States."

Globalization

Driving all, according to Wilson, is globalization. On one side globalization means the increasing flow of ideas, money, people, information and technology around the world. The European Union broke down barriers in Europe. The North American Free Trade Pact can do the same here. The Internet and the explosion of information available at the click of a mouse has fueled this drive toward globalization.

But it also has a dark side, Wilson said.

"Globalization is generally a positive force that will leave most of the world's people better off," he said. "But in some ways, globalization will exacerbate local and regional tensions, increase the

Globalization is generally a positive force that will leave most of the world's people better off," he said. "But in some ways, globalization will exacerbate local and regional tensions, increase the prospects and capabilities for conflict and empower those who would do us harm. This trend will increasingly accord smaller states, groups and individuals destructive capabilities previously limited to major world powers."

prospects and capabilities for conflict and empower those who would do us harm."

The transfer of information and technology increases the dangers from weapons of mass destruction. Wilson said this trend "will increasingly accord smaller states, groups, and individuals destructive capabilities previously limited to major world powers."

Threats

Wilson analyzed the state of the world today and detailed some of the threats he sees facing the United States. Sometime during the next two years he predicts a "major terrorist attack against United States interests, either here or abroad, perhaps with a weapon designed to produce mass casualties."

He said this type of terrorist attack remains the most likely threat to the United States.

If conditions worsen in the Middle East this could lead to an expansion of Israeli-Palestinian violence. A breakdown in the Middle East peace process could cause an increased risk of anti-American violence, an

increased risk of a wider regional conflict and intensified Iraqi efforts to exploit the conflict to gain relief from sanctions, Wilson said.

What we must do

Within the next two years, the United States must closely monitor the Korean peninsula. A breakdown in the growing rapprochement between North and South Korea may mean war. The United States must prepare for an accelerated move toward reunification whose impact catches regional powers unprepared.

The United States must guard against an expanded military conflict between India and Pakistan over Kashmir. This is more serious now since both India and Pakistan have nuclear weapons and the means to deliver them. "Both sides operate from 'zero-sum perspectives,' retain large forces, in close proximity, across a tense line of control," he said. "The potential for miscalculation remains relatively high."

In the next two years there may be intensifying disagreements with Russia over National Missile Defense and its implications on the Anti-ballistic Missile Treaty, European security moves and so on. These disagreements are "spurred by President Putin's more assertive and potentially confrontational foreign policy," Wilson said.

There's a possibility of conflict between China and Taiwan "resulting from increased pressure by Beijing for reunification or a more assertive stance from Taiwan on independence."

There's a possibility of more violence in the Balkans. Wilson said the violence could be between Serbia and Montenegro and/or Kosovo as these smaller territories continue their demands for increased autonomy or independence.

Women's History Month

— WOMEN, From Page 4

sat down...and she made a decision and commitment.

When she woke that morning, it wasn't with the vision or epiphany that she would, that day, change the course of American history. But the decision she made that afternoon (and stuck to) was the right one for the right reason and we're a better nation for it. But she was an ordinary woman with extraordinary courage, and she did something that your mom probably would have done.

My mom (probably yours too) is an understated picture of heroism in action. She's got a pretty soft heart and over the 38 years I've been hers, she's cried enough tears to fill the Great Salt Lake. But don't be fooled — they're not tears of cowardice or weakness. She's worked



every day for more than 40 years, and every day that I've been alive, she returned home after a full day's work to her other full-time job raising and caring for a family.

She struggled to ensure we not only had all we needed, but much that we wanted. I've seen her put her head on her arms and cry with exhaustion and get up the next day to do it all again, and woe to the villain who thinks to threaten those she loves. She can take you — I've seen her.

She's as flexible and deadly as Arthur's sword and even though she will never be the mother of the president of the United States, she has mothered and raised three loyal, honest, bill-paying adults.

She did her duty every day not for fame or fortune (of which she's had blessed little), but for the vision she carried of independent, strong, happy children. Her

vision was and is specific. Other women harbor even grander visions in their souls.

Robert Fulghum, in "It Was On Fire When I Lay Down On It," wrote of a traveler from Italy who visited Chartres, France, to see the great cathedral under construction there. The traveler arrived at the end of the day when the workers were leaving. He asked a man, covered with dust, what he did there. The man told him that he was a stonemason and carved rocks. Another worker told the traveler that he was a glassblower and spent his day blowing slabs of colored glass. A third said as a blacksmith, he pounded iron all day.

Continuing to walk through the unfinished church, he met an old woman who was sweeping stone, glass and wood residue.

"What are you doing," he asked her. She leaned on her broom and gazed at the arches, stories above her head, and replied, "I'm building a cathedral for the glory of Almighty God."

That building was the creation of generations of workers. The cleaning woman would not live to see

You should know your core values in your sleep

They are your unit foundation

By Lt. Col. Paul Valentic
435th Flying Training Squadron

Core Values: Integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do.

I know we hear about our core values all the time, and everyone can repeat them in their sleep. Do you know why? Our core values form the foundation of our organization. Without this firm grounding, we cease to function as an efficient well-disciplined unit.

Integrity. Start with yourself first. If you can't be honest with yourself, it will be impossible to expect it from others. Be able to admit when you're wrong and be truthful with those around you. There will be those around you who don't necessarily want to hear the truth but, if you remain factual and unemotional, you will

be seen as someone who can provide clear and honest advice. This is absolutely necessary in all our professional—not to mention personal—relationships.

Service Before Self. These days, it seems everyone wants to know, "What's in it for me?" If you ask yourself that question when you're given a task, maybe you're in the wrong profession. Whether you wear a uniform or a business suit to work, you improve yourself and your organization if you work toward the same goals.

It's as simple as asking yourself, "Is my goal really that different than my unit's?" We all want to live comfortably and to raise our children in a safe environment. Is that goal really that far from the goals of the organization?

Excellence in All We Do. I believe

most people don't come to work thinking "I'm going to do a bad job today." We all strive to do our best. Sometimes we need more training, better resources, clearer objectives or just a little more encouragement. We feel a sense of achievement when we accomplish tasks, big or small, and even better when someone notices. As leaders, and we're all leaders, we need to recognize a job well done when we see it. Too often, good work is seen as the norm and only when it's wrong do we get feedback.

The core values, when tied together and practiced, make us better people, better organizations and a better nation. They are a foundation of principles that help us live our lives both on the job and at home. Take a minute to remind yourself what they mean to you.

Outdoor Recreation needs volunteers

Outdoor Rec needs drivers to take adventure seekers to the untamed regions of Colorado. Outdoor Rec also needs volunteers to help with wet-and-wild rafting, camping, hiking, canoeing, all-terrain vehicle and kayaking adventures.

If you're interested, call Scott Hackney at 556-4867 or 556-4487.



Sports

Shorts

Wallyball Tournament

There will be a wallyball tournament 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Thursday at the sports and fitness center. There is an entry fee of \$5 per team (four person teams). Call 556-1515 for more information.

Cheyenne Mountain St. Patricks Day 5K run

Cheyenne Mountain will host a 5K run beginning at 11:30 a.m. March 9. There is \$1 entry fee, \$10 if you want a T-shirt. Call 556-1515 for more information and to sign up.

Sports Council meeting

There will be a Sports Council meeting, 10:30 a.m. March 12 in the Health and Wellness Center. Call 556-7708 for more information.

Intramural volleyball

The intramural volleyball season begins Monday. Games will be Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., and evenings, 5-8 p.m., at the sports and fitness center. Call Les Stewart at 556-4475 for more information.

Intramural pool (8-ball)

An intramural pool coaches meeting is scheduled for March 19, 10:30 a.m., at the sports and fitness center

Intramural walleyball

An intramural wallyball coaches meeting will be March 16 10:30 a.m. at the sports and fitness center.

Silver Spruce Golf Course

To check playing conditions and hear the weather recording, updated every morning at 7 a.m., call 556-7810. For other course information, call 556-7414.

Outdoor Recreation winter hours

Outdoor Recreation winter hours are: Monday 6 a.m.-7 p.m.; Tuesday - Friday 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For rental equipment prices and other information, call 556-4867 or 556-4487.

Hockey

Any active-duty, reserve or civilian members interested in playing pick-up ice hockey can call Chris Spacone at 556-4507 for more information.

Bowling center

Bowling center specials for the next two weeks include the following:

Wednesday: free coffee all day for customers in celebration of good customer service.

Girl Scout Week: March 12-16, Girl Scouts in uniform bowl three games for free. Call the bowling center at 556-4608 for more information.

AFSPC 'A' Team takes title in Over-30 league playoffs

By Airman 1st Class Shane Sharp
21st SW Public Affairs

The Air Force Space Command "A" Over-30 Tuesday/Thursday league intramural basketball team took the base over-30 championship with a buzzer-beating three-pointer from Darrin Wray.

The three-pointer came with 2.8 seconds remaining to give his team a 32-29 victory over AFSPC "C" (from the Monday/Wednesday over-30 league).

The Tuesday/Thursday team may have come out the champs in the end, but for the majority of the game it looked to be otherwise.

The first half was very physical, with strong defense on both sides. By half-time, the Monday/Wednesday team chiseled out a five point lead, 17-13.

The second half -- equally physical -- saw the Tuesday/Thursday team stay within five points for the majority of the half. With four minutes remaining in the game they found themselves down by four.

Strong defense and capitalizing on turnovers helped the Tuesday/Thursday crew to close the point gap. When the clock hit 60 seconds, the score was tied, 29-29.

With the ball at the Monday/Wednesday team basket, a member of the Tuesday/Thursday caused a jump ball, giving his team possession with a little more than 30 seconds remaining. From there, AFSPC "A" patiently passed the ball, looking for a good shot. With five seconds to go the ball ended up

in Wray's hands. He put his team up by three and left 2.8 seconds on the clock for the opposition to answer.

And they almost did. Todd Foley caught the in-bound at half court, turned and fired ahead of the buzzer, but the shot bounced off the back of the rim, giving the victory to AFSPC "A" team.



Base Over-30 champions gather for a photo with their trophy. Front row, left to right: James Hodges, Carl Tickel, Terry Seaman and Shelton Haskins. Back row, left to right: Darrin Wray, Mark Smekrud, John Faulkner and Thomas Konchan. Not pictured: Dan Rodriguez and Lupe Hernandez.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Shane Sharp

Henry Floyd, AFSPC "C", soars over defenders for the shot.

AFSPC team takes rec league honors

By Airman 1st Class Shane Sharp
21st SW Public Affairs

The Air Force Space Command recreational league intramural basketball team beat the 11th Space Warning Squadron 59-42 to claim the recreational league championship Feb. 23 at the fitness center.

Space command hit the floor running, hitting open outside shots and dominating the boards. Space command's strong rebounding, largely the result of hard work by Todd Foley and Paul Jones, backed by solid defense, limited the 11th SWS to one shot opportunity on several occasions.

"We went with a big line-up to control the rebounding and limit their shot selections which gave us the opportunity to get out in the open court and run. That's what we do best," said Martin Cunningham, AFSPC coach.

Six minutes into the game, AFSPC was up by seven, 11-4.

Over the next four minutes AFSPC went on a 7-1 run, holding the 11th SWS to just a free throw.

The 11th SWS continued struggling for the rest of the first half while AFSPC continued to crash the boards and pour on the offense. By halftime, AFSPC had built a 20-point lead, with the score 34-14.

"We were able to hit our open shots and get a lot of second shot opportunities thanks to strong rebounding," said Cunningham.

AFSPC came out with the same fast pace in the second half. The 11th SWS took it up a few levels, hanging with AFSPC point-for-point. With nine minutes remaining in the game the score was 46-27, in favor of AFSPC.

The two teams continued trading baskets. The 11th SWS made attempts at coming back, narrowing the

point gap to 14 at one time, but that's as close as they would come. With about one minute left in the game, the 11th SWS's Tyrone Clark drove the lane to make one last statement. That statement came in the form of a two handed dunk. The dunk resulted in a technical foul, due to an intramural basketball rule change this year prohibiting dunks during games. But it also resulted in cheers from teammates who seemed to agree that it was a fitting note to end the season.

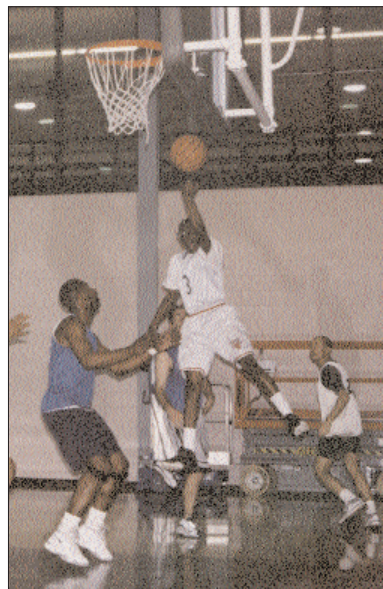
When the buzzer sounded, AFSPC won the championship 59-42. AFSPC's only two fans in attendance, Becky Cunningham and Chief Master Sgt. Richard Cargill, headquarters AFSPC first sergeant, cheered the team and congratulated them on the win.

Paul Jones led AFSPC in scoring with 20 points followed by Martin Cunningham with 14. Todd Foley added 10 points to the victory.

Brian Kemp led the scoring for the 11th SWS, with 12 of his 13 points coming from behind the three-point line. Tony Little scored 11 points.



Martin Cunningham, AFSPC, finishes a fast break with a layup.



Dale Hollins, AFSPC, goes up for a left handed scoop shot past Todd Foley for a layup.



Tony Little, 11th SWS, drives the baseline past Todd Foley for a layup.



John Oechsle, AFSPC, takes it to the basket

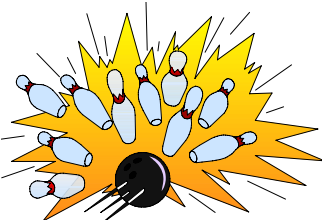


The Air Force Space Command recreational league intramural basketball team poses for a picture with the championship trophy. Front row, left to right: Mike Cerce, Martin Cunningham, John Oechsle and Dale Hollins. Back row, left to right: Todd Foley, Henry Floyd, Carl Jones and Ben Squires. Not pictured: Antonio Williams.

Photos by Airman 1st Class Shane Sharp

Guardian Challenge Bowl-A-Thon 9 Pin No-Tap tournament

Date: March 26
Time: 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Location: Bowling Center
Cost: \$3 per person
Limit: 40, 5-person teams



Prizes for:

- High Series (team & individual) - \$35 gift certificate each person
- Most Pledges (individual) - \$50 gift certificate

For more information call 556-3149 or 556-4576.

Academy wins fifth Baseball Classic

Air Force records its fifth Service Academies Championship, more than any other team. The Falcons won the tournament in 1990 and 1991, then tied for the title in '96 before winning it again in 1999. Air Force went 2-1 in round robin play this year, defeating Army and Navy and losing to Memphis.

Sophomore pitcher Johnny Koegel, 2-1 this season, had the best outing of his career, striking out a career-high 10 batters and allowing only two walks. He never faced more than five Memphis batters in any inning.

Tournament MVP Mike Thiessen started the scoring with his third home run of the season, smashing Tiger starter Ryan O'Malley's first pitch of the second inning over the left field wall.

Thiessen hit two homers during the tournament, the other one a game-winning two-run shot in the tenth inning against Navy in the Falcons' 4-2 victory on Friday. He was 5-for-15 in the team's four games with three RBI and four runs scored.

Thiessen and Koegel joined teammates Price Paramore and Mike Tufte on the All-Tournament Team. Paramore was 7-for-16 during the tournament with a double,

triple and two RBIs. Tufte threw eight strong innings in the Falcons' 5-0 victory against Army in the tournament's opener.

Memphis, 6-1, tied the score with a run of its own in the bottom of the second as Joshua Payne led off with a double and scored on James Rouse's groundout.

Brian LaBasco put the Falcons back on top with a sacrifice fly in the third, plating Daniel Petro, who led off the inning with a single, advanced to second on a passed ball and went to third on Nelson Prouty's single.

The Falcons posted four hits in the inning, but it stalled when David Diehl was thrown out at home attempting to score from second base on a single by Thiessen.

Air Force, 11-5, closed out the scoring with an insurance run in the fifth when Paramore hit a two-out double to left field, scoring Prouty.

Air Force returned home for four games this week. The Falcons



Sophomore pitcher Johnny Koegel scattered four hits in seven innings and posted the first complete game of his career to give Air Force a 3-1 victory over the University of Memphis Feb. 25 in the championship game of the 2001 Service Academies Classic in Millington, Tenn.

took on Nebraska-Omaha on Thursday, and faces Northern Iowa at home for a three-game series beginning today at 1 p.m.